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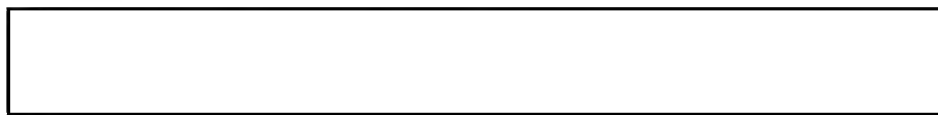
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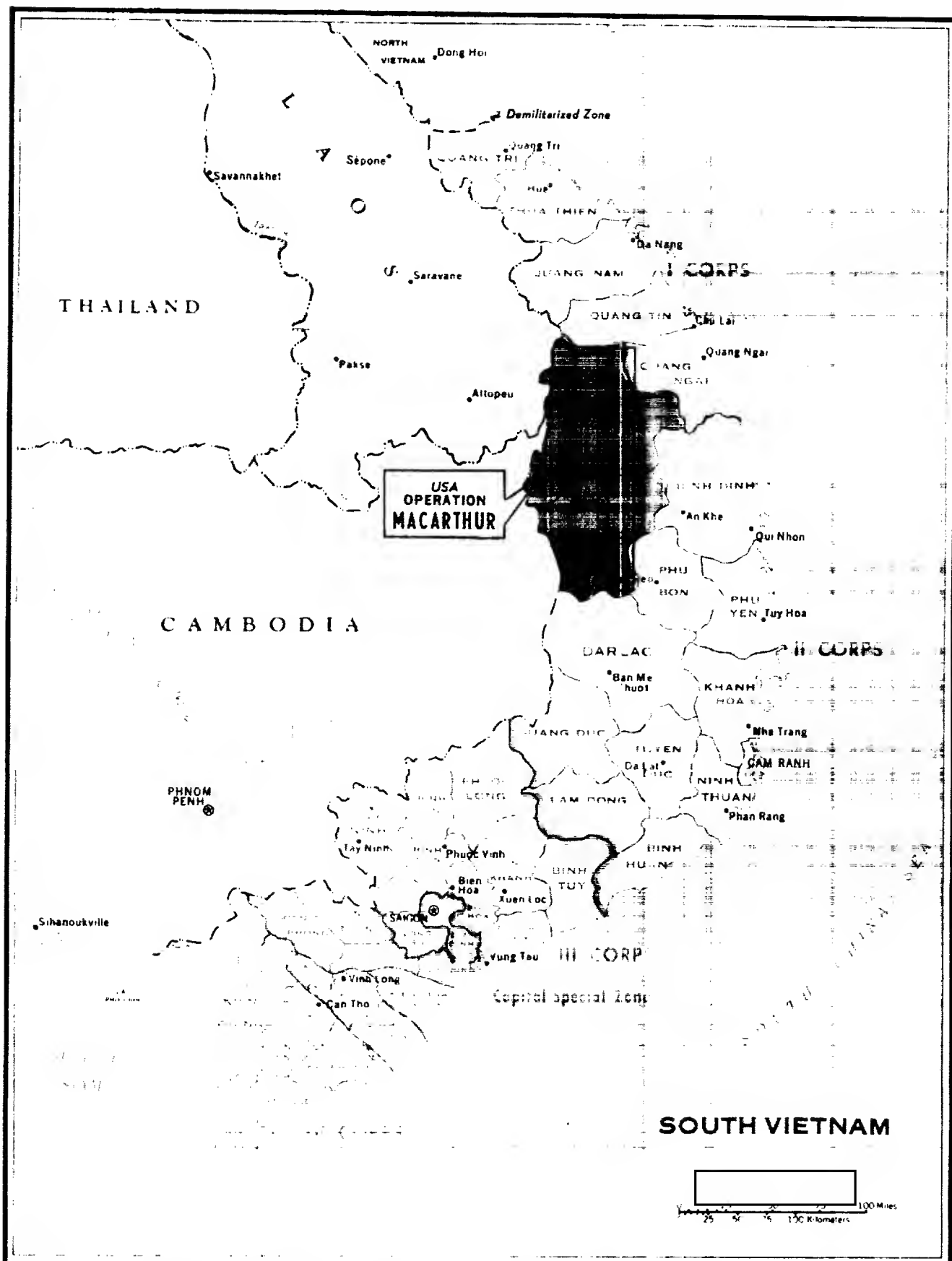
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*Vietnam:

North Vietnam: Vietnamese Communists continue to put forward Hanoi's stiff line on negotiations.

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A Liberation Front representative in Algeria declared recently that the bombings must end before Hanoi will talk, but he went on to predict that the war in the South would go on until the US recognizes the Front and agrees to leave Vietnam. Liberation Front representatives frequently attempt to show their alleged independence from Hanoi by emphasizing that any bilateral US - North Vietnamese talks would not deal with a settlement of issues in South Vietnam.

South Vietnam: Two long-term US operations in the Western Highlands of II Corps ended on 12 October.

The first, Operation FRANCIS MARION, begun in April, inflicted enemy casualties of 1,203 killed in the Kontum-Pleiku province area. The other, Operation GREELEY, resulted in 191 Communists killed during four months of light, sporadic contact in Kontum. American losses for both operations totaled 312 killed.

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The two operations apparently thwarted an expected Communist summer offensive in the highlands. The bulk of the enemy forces in the area remained in their Cambodian sanctuary and avoided major sustained action.

A follow-up, Operation MACARTHUR, was launched on 12 October by elements of the US 4th Infantry Division. The operation is aimed at Communist forces in the same general Kontum-Pleiku area, but may have to contend with a "fall-winter" campaign which has been mentioned in a number of enemy documents. The Communist campaign, if it comes off, would probably be directed at drawing allied forces away from the heavily populated, rice-rich coastal II Corps provinces, where friendly operations have effectively limited enemy control.

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NOTES

South Korea: The opposition party's boycott of the National Assembly, which has blocked legislative business since June, appears to be breaking up. Under pressure of the government one opposition assemblyman has taken his seat, and others seem likely to follow. The presence in the assembly of even a token number of opposition members will help the government convince the public that constitutional requirements have been met and legislative action can proceed. [REDACTED]

UK - South Arabia: London has announced that its preparations for withdrawal from South Arabia are at an "advanced stage" and can be completed in a short period. On 11 October, High Commissioner Trevelyan stated publicly that the British are ready to begin negotiations immediately with Arab representatives to be chosen by South Arabian leaders who met recently in Cairo. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The final phase, which will take one month, cannot be carried out, however, until the new coalition government agrees to final arrangements for independence. [REDACTED]

Uruguay: The political situation remains unsettled. Another cabinet minister has resigned as a result of disagreements over the state of siege imposed on 9 October, but President Gestido has made no move to bring in new men to fill the vacant posts. A high government official, however, is consulting with all factions of the ruling Colorado Party on the composition of the possible new cabinet. The government is continuing its hard line on labor agitation; however, the Communist-backed 24-hour general strike was held on schedule on 11 October and met with some success. [REDACTED]

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

The United States Intelligence Board, on 12 October 1967, approved the following national intelligence estimates:

NIE 31-67, "India's Domestic Prospects," [REDACTED] 25X1

SNIE 83.3-67, "The Political Prospects in Nicaragua Over the Next Year or So," [REDACTED] 25X1

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[REDACTED]

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